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Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 IZMIR 00078 191245 Z

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

RSR-01 OMB-01 T-03 AID-20 INRE-00 /102 W
---------- 089781
P R 190930 Z MAR 73
FM AMCONSUL IZMIR
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 922
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L IZMIR 078
E. O. 11652/ : GDS
TAGS: PINT, TU
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
1. MAJOR IZMIR POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS , JP, RPP
AND DP, IN RARE AGREEMENT ON AT LEAST TWO PRINCIPAL
ASPECTS OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: (A) THAT CIVILIAN
SHOULD BE PRESIDNET-- AND RECENTLY RETIRED GENERAL
GURLER DOES NOT RPT NOT FIT THAT REQUIREMENT ; AND
(B) THEY FULLY RELIZE MILITARY HAS ITS BACK UP
OVER REBUFF TO ITS CHOSEN CANDIDATE, BUT NEVERTHELESS
APPEAR BELIEVE THAT THEIR PARTIES UNWILLING ACCEPT
GURLER. THEY VIEW SITUATION NOW AS EXTREMELY

PAGE 2 RUQNBWA0645 C O N F I D E N T I A L
PRECARIOUS AND ARE FRANKLY WORRIED ABOUT POSSIBLITY
OF DIRECT MILITARY INTERVENTION.
2. BOTH RPP AND DP IZMIR PROVINCIAL CHAIRMEN
CRITITCAL OF DEMIRLE ROLE IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
WITH REGARD TO BOTH HIS FIALURE TO CONSULT WITH
OTHER PARTIES WELL BEFORE ELECTION AND THEN HIS
INSISTENCE ON CHOOSING SENATE PRESIDENT ARIBURUN
AS HIS CANDIDATE.
3. BOTH RPP AND DP CHAIRMAN TOLD US MAR 16 THAT
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THEIR PARTIES OPPOSITION TO GURLER CANDIDACY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH GURLER PERSONALLY, BUT RATHER WAS RESULT OF MANNER IN WHICH MILITARY TRIED TO FORCE SOLDIER ON PARLIAMENT. ACCORDING LOCAL SOURCES , JP OPPOSITION PREDICATED ON MORE PRACTICAL POLITICAL GROUNDS. REPORTEDLY, IZMIR MAYOR KIBAR, WHO FUNCTIONS AS DEMIREL GO- BETWEEN WITH GURLER (SEE IZMIR 311, NOV 2, 1972), CARRIED MESSAGE TO GURLER THAT GURLER CANDIDACY WOULD HAVE JP SUPPORT AND THAT DEMIREL EXPECTED QUID PRO QUO. WHEN GURLER ALLEDGEDLY TOLD KIBAR THAT HE WOULD NOT RPT NOT

MAKE COMMITMENT TO CHOOSE DEMIREL AS PRIME MINISTER, DEMIREL RESOLVED TO OPPOSE GURLER AND TO BACK CANDIDATE WHO PARTICULARLY IRRITATE MILITARY.

4. RPP CHAIRMAN TOLD US THAT HIS PARTY WOULD NEVER VOTE FOR GURLER AND THAT GURLER COULD NOT BE ELECTED. WHILE DP CHAIRMAN STATED THAT DP WOULD CONTINUE TO VOTE SOLIDLY FOR BOZBEYLI, HE THOUGHT THERE CHANCE THAT GURLER WOULD ULTIMATELY BE ELECTED. BOTH RPP AN DP CHAIRMEN BELIEVED MOST EXPEDIENT SOLUTION TO PRESENT CRISIS WAS TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF SUNAY TERM UNTIL AT LEAST AFTER GENERAL ELECTIONS.

SIPPRELLE

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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